## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 OPIC-06 SP-02 CIEP-02

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DRAFTED BY: XMB:AMOHANIAN

APPROVED BY: EB/OCA/REP:LAKLIEFORTH XMB: WARREN W GLICK ACTING EXECUTIVE VP

EB/IFD/ODF:RASWART NEA/ARN:PKBULLEN

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R 252241Z APR 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: APUB, LE

SUBJECT: PRESS RELEASE ON EXIMBANK CREDIT TO TRANS

MEDITERRANEAN AIRWAYS

FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY, FOLLOWING IS FINAL TEXT OF EXPORT-IMPORT BANK RELEASE ON THE DIRECT CREDIT OF \$15,233,000 TO TRANS MEDITERRANEAN AIRWAYS. RELEASE IS CHEDULED FOR ANNOUNCEMENT HERE IN WASHINGTON DC FOR AM PAPERS, THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1975.

QUOTE: EXIMBANK CREDIT OF \$15,233,000 SUPPORTS \$56,480,000 SALE OF U.S. USED AIRCRAFT TO AIRLINE IN LEBANON

TO SUPPORT A \$56,484,000 SALE OF TWO USED B747-100 FREIGHTER JET AIRCRAFT, RELATED SPARE PARTS AND GROUND EQUIPMENT TO TRANS MEDITERRANEAN AIRWAYS IN LEBANON, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES HAS AUTHORIZED A DIRECT CREDIT OF \$15,233,000 TO FINANCE 27 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED

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U.S. COSTS. ADDITIONAL FINANCING OF \$22,546,000 TO COVER 40

PERCENT OF THE U.S. COSTS WILL BE PROVIDED EQUALLY BY FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO, UNION DE BANQUES ARABES ET FRANCAISES, BANK OF AMERICA, NT & SA, AND FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK.

THE U.S. SUPPLIER OF THE AIRCRAFT, AMERICAN AIRLINES, WILL PROVIDE FINANCING OF \$7,389,000 TO COVER 13 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL U.S. COSTS AND TRANS MEDITERRANEAN AIRWAYS WILL MAKE CASH PAYMENT OF THE BALANCE OF 20 PERCENT OR \$11,312,000. DELIVERY OF THE AIRCRAFT IS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 1975 AND MAY 1976.

THE LOANS ARE TO BE REPAID IN 16 SEMIANNUAL INSTALLMENTS BEGINNING JULY 10, 1976. EXIMBANK'S DIRECT CREDIT OF \$15,233,000 WILL BE REPAID OUT OF A PORTION OF THE 11TH INSTALLMENT AND ALL OF INSTALLMENTS 12 THROUGH 16, WITH INTEREST AT THE RATE OF 8 1/2 PERCENT PER ANNUM, WHICH WHEN BLENDED WITH THE INTEREST RATE ON THE PORTION OF THE CREDIT FROM PRIVATE SHOURCES RESULTS IN AN ESTIMATED INTEREST COST TO THE BORROWER, BASED ON CURRENT RATES, FROM ABOUT 8.9 PERCENT TO 9.15 PERCENT PER ANNUM. REPAYMENT OF EXIMBANK'S LOAN IS TO BE GUARANTEED BY THE FOUR BANKS PARTICIPATING IN THE FINANCING. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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